



# *The HPD News*

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## **A Message From Two More of Your Assistant Chiefs**

### **Information Services**

The Information Services Command is managed by Assistant Chief D.N. Richards, who is responsible for the following divisions: Emergency Communications, Communications Management, Computer Services, Records, Planning and Research, Inspections, and Crime Analysis.

The Emergency Communications Division (ECD) receives emergency and non-emergency calls for service via the enhanced 9-1-1 system or from the non-emergency reporting system.

The Communications Management Division supports the voice and wireless data communications for HPD.

The Computer Services Division purchases, installs, and maintains all computer systems and network servers in HPD. It also coordinates the installation of and maintains data communication services to police facilities, provides program support, and operates and maintains the mainframe and Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD).

The Records Division provides police reports and documents to the public, department personnel, and other criminal justice agencies.

The Planning and Research Division supports HPD and other law enforcement agencies by conducting descriptive and statistical research such as surveys, questionnaires, feasibility studies, and evaluations of programs.

The Inspections Division is comprised of two sections: the Operations Analysis Section, which conducts internal audits, operations analyses, and special projects; and the Policy Development Section, which is responsible for creating and revising General Orders.

The Crime Analysis Division conducts statistical and analytical research relating to the division's anti-crime programs.



**Assistant Chief D. N. Richards, Information Services Command**

### **Support Services**

Assistant Chief M.C. Simmons manages the Support Services Command, which is responsible for the Identification, Crime Lab, Jail, Property and Supply, and Fleet Management divisions. The command also coordinates with the City of Houston Building and Services Department in maintaining and improving existing facilities and forecasting the long-term needs of HPD.

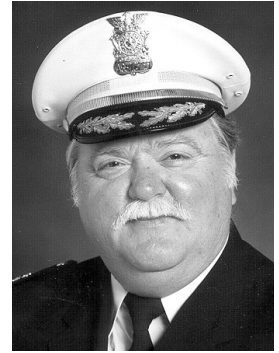
The Identification Division has eight sections: prisoner processing, applicant processing, latent fingerprint lab, voice image enhancement lab, data entry unit, microfilm, polygraph unit, and the forensic document lab.

The Crime Lab Division is organized into eight areas that include Administrative, Controlled Substances, Photography, Serology/DNA/PCR, Toxicology, Trace Evidence, Centralized Evidence Receiving, and Firearms.

The Jail Division is responsible for booking, housing, feeding, and processing all prisoners arrested by HPD as well as other local law enforcement agencies. The division also facilitates the appearance of municipal code violators in the municipal court system for both arraignment and trial dockets.

The Property and Supply Division is responsible for being the Police Department's repository and custodian of all evidentiary property. Additionally, the division oversees the planning, ordering, and distribution of all uniforms and related equipment to HPD employees.

The Fleet Management Division is organized into seven functional areas that include Administration, Mechanical Repair, Body Repair, Component Rebuild, Transportation, Mobile Services, and Parts Warehousing. The division is also responsible for providing cost-effective vehicle support services.



**Assistant Chief M. C. Simmons, Support Services Command**

## Chief's Column

Congratulations to all Houston Police Department employees for a job "well done" for the calendar year 2001. Happy Holidays to everyone!

Chief of Police C.O. "Brad" Bradford



## Houston's National Night Out Recognized Again for Success

Greater Houston/Harris County has once again received top honors for its involvement in National Night Out, placing second among cities with a population of 300,000 or more for its participation in 2001. The total number of participants in this year's observance was 63,749, an increase over last year's participation of 63,608.

Houston Police Chief C.O. Bradford said, "Once again, I'm proud and honored that Greater Houston/Harris County has been recognized for its outstanding participation in National Night Out. This honor speaks highly of our citizens and their commitment to reducing crime in their neighborhoods. Everyone involved this year deserves a hearty congratulations from their communities, neighbors, and especially law enforcement agencies that they worked with to bring this recognition to our area once again."

Individual awards went to the following:

- Mayor's Award – Outstanding National Night Out Neighborhood – Inwood Forest
- Distinguished Corporate Contribution Award – Colonial Penn Corporation
- Distinguished Corporate Leadership Award – Duke Energy Corporation
- Outstanding Corporate Support Award – Enron Corporation
- Chief's Award – Outstanding National Night Out Area Award – Northeast and Clear Lake divisions
- Outstanding National Night Out Event Award – Special Operations Division
- Outstanding Leadership Award – Mr. Sunny Yarbrough
- Houston All-Star Award – Broadmoor Community
- Outstanding National Night Out Community Award – Briargrove Park Community

Greater Houston/Harris County has received national honors for its involvement in National Night Out for the years 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990 and consecutively from 1995-2001.

## Citizens' Police Academy Benefits Civilian Employees Also

Citizens may be puzzled about the reasons a police officer does the things that he or she does in a particular situation. If you are curious, you can get a firsthand look at police training and procedures as a participant in the Houston Citizens' Police Academy.

Civilian employees of HPD are encouraged to apply for the class for two reasons. First, it helps them understand how important their role is within the department's overall structure. Second, it helps foster a better working relationship between civilians and uniformed employees.

Since 1989, more than 500 citizens have graduated from the eleven-week program. Many of them still talk about their ride in a patrol car on the academy driving course during a 'code one' demonstration or their experience in a 'shoot-don't shoot' exercise. 'Officer safety' and 'use of force' are two elements of the training that all participants have a better understanding of upon graduation.

You can get an application for the Houston Citizens' Police Academy from Officer Mitch Garcia at the L.D. Morrison Police Training Academy at 281-230-2300.

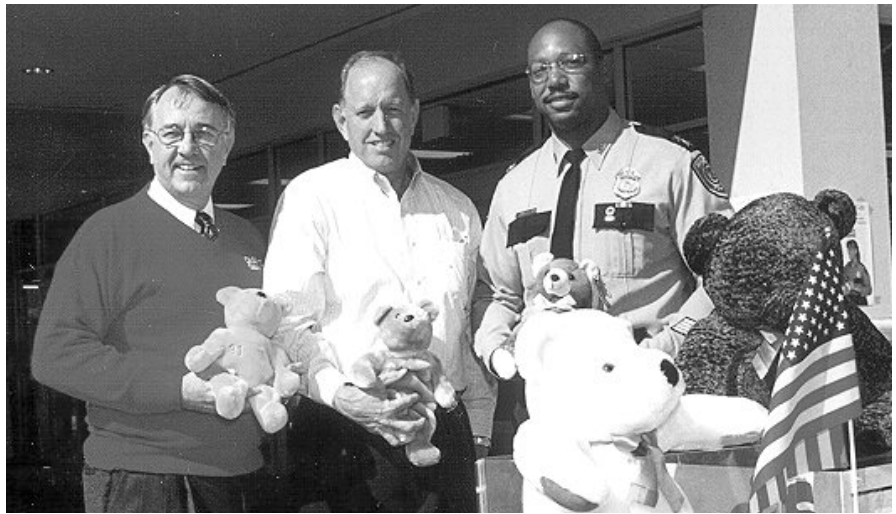
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## “Teddy Bears for Kids” Campaign Provides Comfort All Year Long

The annual “Teddy Bears for Kids” campaign was recently launched by the Community Outreach Division in conjunction with area businesses and hospitals.

“Teddy Bears for Kids” began in 1992 to provide stuffed animals for children who have been traumatized. The toys are distributed to officers in the patrol divisions, the Community Services Division, and at storefronts and substations to make sure that teddy bears are always available for children in need of a warm, fuzzy, and loveable friend.

Carroll Roesler, manager of the Community Outreach Division, says they expect about 3,000 teddy bears to be donated this year. “We need new teddy bears and stuffed animals, not ‘used’ ones,” said Ms. Roesler. Donations can be made through the Community Outreach Division on the 21<sup>st</sup> floor at 1200 Travis throughout the year. For more information about the “Teddy Bears for Kids” campaign, call 713-308-9100.



**Along with Houston Police Assistant Chief C. A. McClelland, Bob and Harry Craig kick off the annual “Teddy Bears for Kids” event at one of the Craig’s Cleaners locations. In past years, Craig’s Cleaners has been the largest contributor of stuffed animals.**

## P.A.N.D.A. Program Names Officers of the Year

Officers Beverly Bisso (Central Patrol) and Rick Trejo (Eastside Patrol) have been named P.A.N.D.A. Officers of the Year.

P.A.N.D.A. (Parents and Neighbors Defense Alliance) began in 1991. Its purpose is to bring citizens, police, and communities together to provide a safer environment for children.

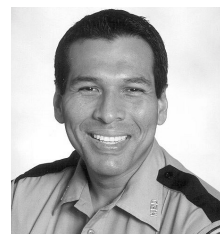
Officer Bisso, a 17-year HPD veteran assigned to the Heights Storefront, has spoken to almost 5,000 children while wearing the program’s signature ‘Panda’ costume. “Since I track sex offenders in the Heights, I saw a need for school age children to be aware of the dangers that are out there and how to avoid them,” said Officer Bisso.

Officer Trejo, an 18-year HPD veteran, recognized the need for P.A.N.D.A. in the Eastside District. He has trained almost 3,000 children in ‘stranger danger’. He has also gained the support of Fiesta Food stores, the Houston Fire Department, and small businesses that have allowed P.A.N.D.A. ‘safe houses’ to be established on their premises.

For more information about P.A.N.D.A. call the Community Outreach Division at 713-308-9100.



**Officer Beverly Bisso, Central Patrol**



**Officer Rick Trejo, Eastside Patrol**



# HPD Officer's Hobby is On Track



**One of six engines that navigate through Officer Howard Martin's (Northeast Patrol -- Community Services) elaborate outdoor train collection.**

Officer Howard Martin (Northeast – Community Services) has used his spare time in the past 27 years to stay on track. The railroad tracks, that is. Officer Martin has a model train set collection. But it's far from ordinary.

Officer Martin began collecting model trains in 1974. His first set was a small HO scale set (1:87" scale) laid out in an empty bedroom. In 1997 he moved up to a larger set or G-scale (1:22" scale) and the collection quickly grew. The 34-year HPD veteran moved his hobby to his backyard where it flourished. Using the natural environment, Officer Martin has

integrated an elaborate two-tiered train system that includes working railroad crossing signs, water towers, buildings, and automobiles. All the trains automatically blow a signal whistle prior to entering a train crossing. The tracks wind in and out of the natural landscape to give it a realistic look.

It takes Officer Martin about an hour to set out the six engines and 25 to 30 freight, box, flatbed, and tanker cars. One of the train sets is an exact replica of the Santa Fe Chief Bluebonnet passenger train that ran along the California coastline.

Officer Martin enjoys spending hours in his backyard trimming grass, weeds, and flowers that grow along the working 250-foot track layout. The train collection operates by wireless remote control and each engine is equipped with a computerized system that emulates the starting of a real train engine including the squeaking of the brakes, the idling of the engine, and the sound of two short horn blasts before the train rolls out of the station. All aboard!

## HPD Holds December Promotions and Awards Ceremony

The Houston Police Department held a Promotions and Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, December 12, 2001. Lieutenant Richard W. Bownds was promoted to the rank of captain. Life Saving Awards were presented to Sergeant Nicholas Wilson and Officers Arturo Bazan, Mark Caronna, James Crawford, Jeffrey Dillard, and Joy Smith. Chief of Police Commendations were presented to Officers Jeffrey Anderson, Michael Carroll, Manuel Cruz, Robert Doyle, Neil McErlane, Daryl Rainer, and John Wilbanks. A Chief of Police Unit Citation was presented to the 14 employees of the Tactical Firearms Training and Qualification Range. Public Service Awards were presented to Troy Gallien, John Kelley, Pete Louis, Susan Martinez, Lionel Melancon, Bradley Morris, Ryan Morris, Mauricio Scarpetta, Cathy Schewe, Tim Schewe, Dr. Steven Schnee, Joann Tierney, and Robert Yates. Officers Guy Majors and Rodolfo Rodriguez of the Westside Division were recognized by the 3M Traffic Control Materials Division and the International Association of Chiefs of Police as Honorable Mention winners in the "Looking Beyond the License Plate" national award program.